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DUI Driver Pleads to Killing LAPD Officer

A 37-year-old woman pleaded no contest today to killing a Los Angeles police officer when her SUV slammed into his motorcycle three years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Qaneak Shaney Cobb entered her plea to one count of second-degree murder. She is scheduled to be sentenced to 15 years to life in state prison on Oct. 30.

Deputy District Attorneys Mary Murray and Garrett Dameron of the Crimes Against Peace Officers Section prosecuted the case.

On April 5, 2014, LAPD Officer Christopher Cortijo was stopped at a red light behind another vehicle at Lankershim Boulevard and Saticoy Street when a Chevrolet Blazer driven by Cobb hit him from behind.

The SUV was traveling about 53 mph at the time of impact, according to prosecutors. The 51-year-old officer was killed when he was crushed between two vehicles. Cobb was driving under the influence of cocaine at the time of the crash, prosecutors added.

Case BA435352 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.